

Chubbuck Fire District (North Bannock County)-Mitigation Plan

The Chubbuck Fire District is located in the North end of Bannock County. The District is agricultural and rural housing. The District covers 86 square miles and the Department protects 1600 homes with a value of \$142,474,000.00.

The Chubbuck Fire Department has 5 full time employees including the Fire Chief. The remaining 35 members are call paid. The Department responds to approximately 300 fire and 550 EMS calls for service each year.

The Department operates 3 heavy and 2 light wildland trucks and a 3500 gallon tender as well as structural equipment.

The Department has a very good training program. The Department hosts BLM courses and is working toward red card certification. Courses completed include incident command, fire behavior and wildland apparatus. The Department meets NFPA requirements. *The Chief indicated the desire for a standard level of training to be identified for Departments involved in mutual aid.*

The Department has active Fire Prevention programs. Homeowners meetings have been held and prevention programs are continuing. The Department does plan review of new homes and addresses wildland issues. The Red Zone assessment has been started and home evaluations have been conducted the past two years.

There is no history of fuel reduction projects however a project in the Buckskin area is scheduled to begin this year. There is a need for fuel reduction projects in the both the Pocatello Creek and Buckskin areas.

The District has an active history of wildfire with many small fires and 2 or more 100 acre+ fires per year the past five years. These generally occur in the Pocatello Creek-Buckskin area.

The Fire Chief indicated there were some homes located in the east end of the Hoot Owl area that were not in the Fire District.

Water resources currently used include the City water system, Hilina canal and the wastewater pond located near 21/2 mile road. The Chief indicated the issue of water is a big concern in the Pocatello Creek-Buckskin area due to the distance from water sources.

Fire Mitigation Goals

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| • Funding for Additional Station | \$500,000.00 |
| • 2 light trucks | \$160,000.00 |
| • Water tender | 150,000.00 |
| • Small equipment | 5,000.00 |
| • Personal Protective Equipment | 15,000.00 |
| • Become a Fire wise Community | |
| • Complete Red Zone | |
| • Fire Prevention | |
| • Wildland Fire Training | |
| • County Mutual Aid Agreement | |
| • County Wildland Fire Code | |
| • Portable Water Supply | |

Fire Mitigation Actions

- Work with Federal Agencies to identify funding sources. Participate in training opportunities grant writing and work with County, State and Federal Agencies to acquire needed funding.
- Prevention-work with Three Rivers RC&D to complete red Zone project. Work with neighborhoods by holding Block Parties. Continue ongoing prevention programs.
- Training-continue to work with the BLM in participating in wildland training course needed by the Department.
- Mutual Aid Agreement-participate with the other Fire Districts in the County to adopt a mutual aid agreement.
- Wildland Fire Code-participate with a Countywide group to draft and adopt a code.
- Portable water supply-work with other Fire Districts to acquire and share water tenders.

Chubbuck Fire Department

Barton Road

LOW

Past Occurrence	1
Fuel Conditions	3
Population	2
Suppression	3

Suggested Mitigation Projects-Evaluate access to area. Look to improve water supply.

Pocatello Creek/Buckskin

HIGH

Past Occurrence	5
Fuel Conditions	4
Population	5
Suppression	2

Suggested Mitigation Projects-Improve water supply. Install water storage facilities.

Trail Creek Area

MODERATE

Past Occurrence	3
Fuel Conditions	3
Population	2
Suppression	2

Suggested Mitigation Projects-Add access road and water supply facility.

The map displays a 6x6 grid of 36 numbered sections. The towns of Chubbuck, Pocatello, and Arco are labeled. Major roads shown include I-20, I-84, SR-20, and SR-24. A blue line traces a path through the grid, starting from the top left, moving right, then down, and finally right again towards the bottom right corner. The map also shows various smaller roads and landmarks, such as the 'TWO 1/2 MILE RD' and 'WINDING PINE' area.

Assessment Overview Report
Chubbuck Fire District
Three Rivers Resource, Conservation and Development Area
June 2003

Profile of the District:

The Chubbuck Fire District is a combined municipal and fire protection district. Chubbuck is a steadily growing area located just North of the Pocatello City limits. The District also provides rural protection in Bannock and Power Counties and on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. The topography of the District is diverse. It has flatlands, rolling hills and mountainous terrain. Major industry ranges from large shopping malls, to grocery stores and hotels.

Organizational Structure

The District reports to the City Council and Fire District Commission, respectively. The organizational structure includes a chief/EMT, a deputy chief, two battalion chiefs, eight captains, 10 drivers, 18 firefighters/EMT and 10 EMT.

Facilities:

The District has one station with ten bays two of which are used for a shop. The District would like to add two new stations with adequate personnel, apparatus and equipment; one in the Tyhee area and one in the Pocatello Creek area.

Response Area:

The fire protection area includes agricultural, rangelands, forest, wildland urban interface, residential, business and high risk with the HazMat warehouse and the J.R. Simplot Company. The response area includes 200 square miles.

Budget and Funding:

The budget has steadily increased with the growth of the area. The budget is funded 100% from taxes.

Grants:

The Fire District has received grant funds from a variety of sources including the State IDS and EMS, BLM, Forest Service, the INEEL, the FEMA National Fire Plan, from private foundations and from other rural assistance sources. The District is familiar with the National Fire Plan and hopes to continue to pursue grant funding in the future. The City has a grant writer that assists with this process.

Records Management:

A comprehensive, computerized records management system is in place. The present system can track all District operations. The District uses Firehouse, word processing and Excel software.

Firefighting Program:

The Chubbuck Fire District has 50 personnel within the firefighting program who are paid staff. Fire response includes protection for structural protection, wildland fire suppression, EMS QRU, HazMat and rescue extrication. The District reports it responds to 700 calls annually. The area is at high risk for wildland urban interface fires and terrorist attacks. Forty of the firefighters are trained in wildland suppression. The District does have some adequate and reliable water sources including water mains, hydrants and bodies of water. The 10-minute place into action requirement is a capability of the District with scene size-up, initial attack internal and external, water supply, city hydrants, water tender operations, exposure protection, utilities, and the Institute ICS system.

Firefighting Program Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Station, 10 Bays • Paid Personnel • 6,250 Structural/500 Wildland Total GPM Capacity • Computerized Record Keeping System • Fire Response: Structural, Wildlands, EMS QRU, HazMat, Rescue Extrication • 4 Structural/2 Wildland/Structural & 4 Wildlands Vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Stations with Adequate Personnel, Apparatus & Equipment (Tyhee & Pocatello Creek) • Improved Adherence to Access Road Codes; Upgrade • Improved Water Capacity in the District (Hydrants, Dry Hydrants, Water Storage with Pumps) • Expand Water Distribution System • Developers Required to Demonstrate Water Capacity • Water Tender • Grant Funding • Library of Grants for Fire/EMS

Hazardous Materials Program:

Fire District members are trained to operation HazMat level but they do not have an official response team. It will respond and begin operations and assist teams on their arrival.

EMS Program:

The District does provide EMS services. The District is licensed to provide EMT-Basic and QRU support. Personnel are trained in First Responder, EMT Basic, and EMT Advanced-Intermediate. The District responds to approximately 500 calls annually.

EMS Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Responder• EMT Basic• EMT Advanced-Intermediate• 1 QRU Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wildlands Training (Red Card)• Upgrade Older Durable Goods (Longbone Immobilization Devices, Suction Units)

Training and Certification:

The District does have minimum training and certification requirements. Training includes structural protection, wildland fire suppression, EMS, HazMat, terrorist threat and rescue. The ISTA Training Program is utilized.

Training and Certification Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NFPA Standards Level 1 & 2• Wildland Standards for Survival• EMT-Basic• HazMat Operations• Terrorist Threat Weapons of Mass Destruction• Rescue Extrication• NFPA Manuals, Videos and Training Materials• IFSTA Training Program• Standard Operating Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wildlands Training (Red Card)• Increased Use of Fire Service Training• Use of Pocatello Airport Training Facilities• In-house Instructors and from Outside Sources• Grants for Training

Communications:

Communication is dispatched through the Chubbuck 911 dispatch center. Radio communication capacity is sufficient. All of the vehicles are equipped with radios but the District does not have a sufficient number of hand-held radios.

Communication Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responds to Remote Alarm Calls• Portable Radios• Radios in All Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upgrade all Personnel to Two-way Radios• Proper Frequencies for All Radios

Prevention and Inspection:

The District does have Fire Code regulation enforcement capacity and a fire cause and origin investigations process. The District does have an inspection division and a prescribed inspection program in place.

Prevention and Inspection Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire Code Enforcement• Fire Cause & Origin Investigations• Inspection Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grants for Ongoing Training and Materials

Public Education:

The District does conduct public education programs for wildland fires, structural fires, home safety, extinguisher training and smoke detectors. It also participates in public outreach with fairs, schools, public events and fire station activities.

Public Education Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Education• Public Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grants for Public Education Handouts• Visual Aids for Presentations